

NSA review completed

~~TOP SECRET~~

VGO WIE33

DOS Review Completed.

DE WTE #7046 3131856

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK214//

TO GOMPERT/BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY

ZEM

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Q ITIVE VIA 86970 WH43241

TOHAK214

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
CONTAINS CODEWORD

NOVEMBER 9, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

VIET CONG REJECT CALL FOR TALKS: THE VIET CONG TODAY RE-
JECTED THE SAIGON GOVERNMENT'S DEMANDS FOR UNCONDITIONAL
RESUMPTION OF MILITARY AND POLITICAL TALKS.
COLONEL VO CONG GIANG, DEPUTY CHIEF OF THE VIET CONG DELEGATION
TO THE TWO-PARTY JOINT MILITARY COMMISSION IN SAIGON, TOLD A
NEWS CONFERENCE TODAY, "SO LONG AS THIEU REMAINS IN POWER,
THERE CAN BE NO PROPER IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT."

U.S. MESSAGE REPORTEDLY DISPLEASES ETHIOPIAN LEADER:

GENERAL AMAN, HEAD OF THE ETHIOPIAN PROVISIONAL
MILITARY GOVERNMENT, HAS SAID HE IS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE MESSAGE
HE RECEIVED FROM YOU ON NOVEMBER 5. THE MESSAGE, DELIVERED BY
THE U.S. CHARGE IN ADDIS ABABA, INFORMED AMAN THE U.S. HAD AGREED
TO PROVIDE AN ADDITIONAL \$8.3 MILLION CREDIT FOR MILITARY ASSIST-
ANCE. THE EXACT NATURE OF AMAN'S DISPLEASURE WAS NOT SPECIFIED.
HE PROBABLY IS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE AMOUNT -- THE ETHIOPIANS
HAD ASKED FOR MORE -- AND WITH THE LACK OF PROVISIONS FOR MORE
GRANT AID. AMAN AND MOST MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES COORDINATING
COMMITTEE WANT TO CONTINUE TO RELY MAINLY ON THE U.S. FOR MILI-
TARY ASSISTANCE, BUT SOME OPPOSING ELEMENTS ON THE
COMMITTEE WHO FAVOR ASKING THE SOVIET UNION FOR EXTENSIVE AID.
AMAN HAS REPORTEDLY NOT DECIDED ON WHAT ACTION HE WILL TAKE. HE
ORDERED COPIES OF THE U.S. MESSAGE TO BE SENT TO MEMBERS OF THE
COORDINATING COMMITTEE IN ADVANCE OF A COMMITTEE MEETING WHICH
WAS SCHEDULED FOR NOVEMBER 7.

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THE WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS: IRAN REPORTEDLY WILL BE MISSING WHEN THE MIDDLE EAST OIL-PRODUCING COUNTRIES MEET IN ABU DHABI TODAY TO TALK ABOUT A PROPOSAL FOR A UNIFIED SIMPLER SYSTEM FOR PRICING OIL. IRAN IS BOYCOTTING THE MEETING OVER DISAGREEMENT ON PRICES AND GOVERNMENT INCOME FROM OIL. (2)

JEREMIAH O'LEARY WRITES THAT A MIDDLE EAST IMPASSE HAS BEEN AVERTED AND THE SITUATION CREATED BY THE ARAB SUMMIT IS NOW LESS TENSE. THE POSSIBILITY OF FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS REMAINS OPEN DESPITE THE EARLIER APPREHENSIONS ABOUT THE RECOGNITION OF THE PLO. A SENIOR U.S. OFFICIAL FORECASTS A PERIOD OF CONSIDERABLE SECRET DIPLOMACY RATHER THAN ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PUBLIC STATEMENTS. BUT HE SAID HE EXPECTED THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE BEHIND THE SCENES CONSULTING WITH THE U.S. ACTING AS THE CATALYST. THE AIM OF YOUR TRIP REPORTEDLY WAS TO KEEP THE MIDDLE EAST FROM BLOWING UP AND IT IS THOUGHT THAT ALL PARTIES ARE NOW PREPARED TO WAIT TO SEE WHAT HAPPENS. YOUR PHOTO ACCOMPANIES THE COLUMN. (4)

ISRAELI FEARS THAT THE U.S. IS PREPARING TO REVERSE STATED POLICY AND BEGIN TO DEAL WITH THE PLO HAVE MOUNTED FOR NEARLY TWO WEEKS. DESPITE ALL EFFORTS BY STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS TO ALLAY THEM. YESTERDAY A POLICY DISPUTE OVER PLO RECOGNITION BROKE OUT WHEN A PRIVATE CONVERSATION BETWEEN ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE SIDNEY SOBER AND A VISITING ISRAELI PARLIAMENTARIAN WAS LEAKED AND APPEARED IN DOVAR, A TEL AVIV DAILY LINKED TO THE RULING LABOR COALITION. THE LEAK REPORTEDLY PRODUCED A FLURRY OF FRANTIC CALLS TO YOUR PARTY IN TEL AVIV. IT SAID IN PART THAT ISRAEL "MUST GET USED TO THE NEW REALITY CREATED BY THE RABAT CONFERENCE" EVEN AS THE U.S. EVENTUALLY DECIDED TO "LIVE WITH REALITY" AND CHANGE ITS CHINA POLICY. THE LEAKED VERSION OF THE CONVERSATION WAS DESCRIBED AS "A COMPLETE MISREPRESENTATION" OF WHAT SOBER HAD ACTUALLY SAID BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT. (4)

THE LEAD EDITORIAL SAYS IN PART THAT IN NO AREA DOES THE COMING CONGRESSIONAL TERM PROMISE TO BE MORE CRITICAL THAN IN THE AREA OF FOREIGN POLICY. THERE WAS PERHAPS NEVER A TIME WHEN BIPARTISANSHIP IN THE FORMULATION OF AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY WAS MORE INDICATED. IN EACH CASE, A COLLECTIVE RESPONSE IS CALLED FOR, AND IN EACH CASE, AMERICAN LEADERSHIP WILL BE ESSENTIAL. IF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT ITSELF CANNOT UNITE ON AN AGREED COURSE OF ACTION, THE CHANCES OF AVOIDING GLOBAL DISASTER WILL BE GREATLY DIMINISHED. AND ONE MUST CONCEDE AT THIS STAGE THAT

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CHANCES OF A TRULY BIPARTISAN FOREIGN POLICY ARE NOT BRIGHT. THE AUTHOR SAYS IT MAY BE VERY LARGELY A MATTER OF PERSONALITIES THAT DECIDE WHICH COURSE IS PURSUED -- YOU AND YOUR MAJOR ANTAGONIST, SENATOR HENRY JACKSON. JACKSON REPORTEDLY IS ONE OF THE FEW MEMB

S OF CONGRESS WHO CAN EFFECTIVELY CHALLENGE YOU ON CRUCIAL QUESTIONS OF NATIONAL SECURITY, EAST-WEST RELATIONS, AND OTHER ASPECTS OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE EDITORIAL CONCLUDES THAT THE TEMPTATION TO DO JUST THAT WILL BE STRONG OVER THE NEXT TWO YEARS, GIVEN JACKSON'S PRESIDENTIAL AMBITIONS AND THE EVIDENT ANTAGONISM BETWEEN HIM AND YOU. DEBATE IS FINE, BUT THE COUNTRY AND THE WORLD CANNOT AFFORD PERSONAL FEUDS AT THIS TIME. THE PROBLEMS THAT CONFRONT US CALL FOR THE STRONGEST BIPARTISAN ACTION THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED. AND A MUTUAL HATCHET-BURYING CEREMONY BETWEEN THE HENRY'S WOULD BE A GOOD WAY TO START. (10)

J.F. TERHORST WRITES THAT THE BLOOM HAS FADED FROM THE FLOWER OF FRIENDSHIP THAT PRESIDENT NIXON AND CHAIRMAN MAO SO CAREFULLY CULTIVATED IN 1972. INDEED, THE ABSENCE OF ANY REAL PROGRESS IN SINO-AMERICAN RELATIONS SINCE THAT TIME IS ONE OF THE REASONS YOU ARE GOING BACK TO PEKING AFTER FORD'S VISIT TO JAPAN AT THE END OF THE MONTH. AS GEORGE BUSH, THE NEW AMERICAN "LIAISON CHIEF," IS FINDING OUT, THESE DAYS, MAINLAND CHINA IS ANYTHING BUT A FRIENDLY PLACE FOR A GREGARIOUS AMERICAN. MAO'S DEPARTURE WOULD NOT EASE PEKING'S INSISTENCE ON U.S. REJECTION OF CHIANG AND TAIWAN. IN FACT, IT IS LIKELY TO GENERATE INCREASED PRESSURE FOR THAT OBJECTIVE SINCE MAO'S SUBORDINATES ARE EVEN MORE MILITANT THAN HE IS ON THAT ISSUE. THE OBSTACLE TO IMPROVED RELATIONS IN THIS RESPECT IS PEKING, NOT PRESIDENT FORD. INDEED, HE TALKS GLOWINGLY ABOUT HIS THREE-WEEK VISIT TO CHINA SEVERAL YEARS AGO AND HOW MUCH HE WOULD LIKE TO RETURN AS PRESIDENT OF THE U.S.

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